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Attorneys for Defendants
C. R. Bard, Inc. and
Bard Peripheral Vascular, Inc.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

IN RE: Bard IVC Filters Products Liability MDL NO. 15-02641-PHX-DGC
Litigation

This Document Relates to:

ELIZABETH HARPSTER,

Plaintiff,

Case No. 2:18-CV-01197-DGC

v.

C. R. BARD, INC., a New Jersey
Corporation; AND BARD PERIPHERAL
VASCULAR INC., an Arizona
Corporation,

Defendants.

**DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO
DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT
FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH
AMENDED CASE MANAGEMENT
ORDER NO. 5**

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b) Defendants C. R. Bard, Inc. and Bard Peripheral Vascular, Inc. (“Bard”) respectfully move this Court to dismiss Plaintiff Elizabeth Harpster’s Complaint for failure to comply with the terms of Amended Case Management Order No. 5 pertaining to timely service of Plaintiff Profile Forms (“PPF”).

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On April 18, 2018, Plaintiff filed a Short Form Complaint in MDL 2641, *In Re: Bard IVC Filters Products Liability Litigation*, and subsequently, served Bard with a copy of the Summons and Complaint on April 30, 2018. *See* Waiver Transmittal Email and pertinent attachments from Plaintiff’s counsel attached hereto as Exhibit A. On March 3, 2016, this Court entered Case Management Order No. 5 [Doc. 927] (the “Order”) which ordered, in part:

In cases that have been filed in, removed to or transferred to this MDL on or after the date of this Order, each plaintiff shall submit a completed PPF to defendants within 60 days of filing the complaint.

Id. at 1:18-19. The Order further made clear that:

If a plaintiff does not submit a PPF within the time specified in this Order, defendants shall mail an overdue letter by e-mail and U.S. mail to Plaintiffs’ Co-Lead Counsel and the plaintiffs’ individual representative counsel, stating that defendants may move to dismiss that plaintiff’s case within 20 days of receipt of the letter. If no PPF is received within those 20 additional days, defendants may move immediately to dismiss that plaintiff’s case.

Id. at 2:17-22.

Plaintiff’s PPF was due to be served within sixty (60) days of filing the complaint, to wit: Monday, June 17, 2018, but Bard was not served with Plaintiff’s PPF by that date. Subsequently, on July 18, 2018; September 11, 2018; and November 8, 2018, counsel for Bard sent Plaintiff’s Co-Lead Counsel and individual representative counsel an overdue letter via email and U.S. Mail notifying Plaintiff’s counsel of the overdue PPF and Bard’s right under the Order to move to dismiss the Complaint for failure to comply with the protocol set

1 forth by the Order. *See* letters from Bard's counsel, attached as Exhibit B. To date, Bard still
 2 has not received a PPF from Plaintiff in response to its overdue letters.

3 **II. ARGUMENT AND CITATION TO AUTHORITY**

4 The Ninth Circuit has ruled that at least one federal district court sitting over an MDL
 5 action did not abuse its discretion in dismissing certain plaintiff's complaints for failure to
 6 comply with case management orders related to service of plaintiff fact sheets. *In re:*
 7 *Phenylpropanolamine (PPA) Products Liability Litigation*, 460 F.3d 1217, 1232-34 (9th Cir.
 8 2006).

9 Here, the Court entered an Order governing the timely service of PPFs, and providing
 10 a clear protocol for sending and responding to PPF overdue (and deficiency) letters. Plaintiff
 11 failed to serve a PPF within sixty (60) days of the filing of the complaint, failed to serve a
 12 PPF within twenty (20) days of receiving the first overdue letter, and has subsequently
 13 ignored additional requests to serve a PPF upon Bard; thereby, delaying the discovery process
 14 and forcing Bard to incur the cost of filing this Motion. Accordingly, Plaintiff's Complaint
 15 may be dismissed by the Court pursuant to the terms of Case Management Order No. 5 [Doc.
 16 927].

17 WHEREFORE, Bard respectfully requests that this Court enter an Order dismissing
 18 Plaintiff's Complaint for the foregoing reasons. For the Court's convenience, a proposed
 19 order is attached as Exhibit C.

20 This 20th day of June, 2019.

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**Attorney for Defendants C. R. Bard, Inc. and
Bard Peripheral Vascular, Inc.**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on June 20, 2019, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

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